



Nevada Arts Council
Board Meeting
Friday, April 10, 2020 – 10:00 AM

MEETING LOCATION:

DUE to COVID-19 this will be a virtual meeting via ZOOM conference platform

THIS MEETING IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE "DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE 006 3-21-2020 NEVADA OPEN MEETING LAW" AND HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Websites: <https://nvculture.org/nevadaartscouncil/home/meeting-agendas/> and <https://notice.nv.gov>

BOARD MEMBERS

Gail Rappa, Chair
Jerry Schefcik, Vice-Chair
Ryrie Valdez
Amanda Horn
Andy Lott
Mark Salinas
Yale Yeandel

STAFF / DAG:

Tony Manfredi
Fran Morrow
Cathleen J. Wyatt
Mary Jane Dorofachuk
Stephen Reid
Sierra Scott
Rebecca Snetselaar
Harry Ward DAG

MEETING MINUTES

A. Opening _____

- a. Call to Order and Confirmation of Proper Posting – Gail Rappa.

Chair Rappa called the meeting to order at 10:08 and confirmed proper posting.

- b. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum – Gail Rappa.

Chair Rappa conducted roll call and determined quorum was established. Staff was introduced.

B. Public Comment _____

- a. Public comment is welcomed by the Board. A period of public comment will be allowed at the beginning and at the end of the meeting. Because of time considerations, the period for public comment by each speaker may be

limited to three (3) minutes at the discretion of the Chair, and speakers are urged to avoid repetition of comments made by previous speakers.

There was no public comment.

C. For Possible Action – Approval of Minutes _____

- a. Approval of December 13, 2019 NAC Meeting Minutes.

Amanda Horn made a motion to approve the minutes with a minor change. Jerry Schefcik seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Discussion Only – COVID-19 Updates _____

- a. State Updates
- b. Agency Updates and Impact

Tony Manfredi reviewed a statewide We are Listening Session that was conducted to give an update to constituents on the status of the agency. He gave an update on the staffing and remote work scenarios. He stated they have been asked to develop General Fund reduction scenarios for both 2020 and 2021 to present to Governor Sisolak on Monday. He reviewed the financial assistance programs that have launched including CARES Act. He stated that the live Poetry Out Loud State Final was canceled and that they are working on a virtual competition to crown a Nevada State Champion and second and third place winners. The Basin to Range Exchange Program was to begin on April 21st and 22nd in Tonopah and has been postponed. Some of our Nevada Touring Initiative Exhibits are closed because the facilities are closed. He informed the board that the National Endowment for the Arts released their CARES Act grants which are direct operational grants of \$50,000 each. The Nevada Arts Council received notification that they were awarded \$442,000 in CARES Act Grants from the NEA that may support salaries, administration costs, and related sub granting to the nonprofit arts sector in response to the pandemic. In addition, state arts agencies and regional arts, are allocated up to \$50,000 of these funds for their own salary and operating expenses. Artistsrelief.org, a group of national arts grant makers, have come together to create an emergency initiative. They'll be distributing \$5,000 grants to artists who are facing dire financial emergencies due to COVID.

Mark Salinas asked if the NEA passed recommendations to state arts agencies on creating panels for the dispersal of monies or are they going to allow every state arts agency to come up with their own approach on how they're going to convene panels?

Tony Manfredi stated the NEA is not providing, nor requiring, any kind of direct requirement on paneling. He stated that staff is going to have discussion on this matter and will present a comprehensive plan and various scenarios to share with the board.

E. Discussion Only – Grant Program Review _____

- a. Grant Offerings
- b. Grant Process
- c. Grant Funding
- d. Board Role During Panels
- e. Board Role During Approval

Tony Manfredi stated that after questions from the last board meeting and due to new board members the agency determined it would be good to go through our grant program.

Sierra Scott reviewed grants program. She stated the FY20 grants are made up of 34% federal funds from the NEA and 66% state funds. And those state funds are a combination of general funds, Tourims Transfer, live entertainment tax and other contributions from the state. She stated that a little over half of the grant budget goes to operating support grants, which are two-year grants to arts-based organizations, then allocations for the project grants, the arts learning project grant, and then down to their non-competitive grants. She gave a general overview of the 2019 program and grant results. She reviewed the types of applicants. She reviewed the one-year grants, six-month grants and some two-year grants. She explained the review criteria and then reviewed the project, planning and management for all agency grants..

F. For Possible Action – FY20 Grant Award Reallocation due to COVID-19 _____

- a. Approval to allow Executive Director to change, if/as needed, any project grant that has been cancelled due to COVID-19 to an operational grant.

Tony Manfredi stated this request is due to the current operating environment. Certain projects have been canceled or postponed, and this is based on some of the grant money that has already been awarded by the board for particular projects. He reviewed the process for grant change requests. He stated he wanted to be sure the board is aware of these changes and is comfortable in allowing him to make the final decision to change project grants to operational support due to the Pandemic.

Chair Rappa stated NASA sent out a memo detailing the points about the rationale for changing project grants over to organizational support grants.

Tony Manfredi stated the same holds true with the CARES Response. The NEA put out some information and guidance on it as well so most organizations are moving forward on this.

Andy Lott asked if the grantees would know that that's an option for them or is it if they only reach out to you that then it will be established? Tony Manfredi stated they have posted this information on their website and communicated with subgrantees on an individual basis as well. Chair Rappa stated she thought that We are Listening sessions will be a good forum for that as well.

Mark Salinas made a motion to approve the executive director to change as necessary any FY 20 project grant that has been canceled due to COVID-19 to an operational grant. Ryrie Valdez seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

G. Discussion Only – Strategy Planning _____

a. Review Current Strategic Plan

Tony Manfred reviewed the strategic plan and the questions that were sent to the board. We'll be writing a new project grant for the National Endowment for the Arts, a new three-year project grant. He reviewed the authorized legislative NRS statute that frames up the Arts Council. He went over the mission statements, vision statements, goals and outcomes. He reviewed who they are and how they operate. He asked the board their views on the question of what are the biggest needs in your community both within and outside of arts and culture

Chair Rappa stated she thought that question was where we need to focus right now because we need to be there as a support for our arts community.

Amanda Horn stated from the arts perspective, one of the things she cited in her response is a lack of really healthy arts ecosystem. From her perspective, that tends to be the biggest gap in terms of the visual arts.

Jerry Schefcik stated he agreed with Amanda. The greatest need is visibility, how to get the word out, how to make the NAC and the contributions that are made by NAC even more visible in support of the arts.

Edward Estipona stated we need to figure out how to extend ourselves beyond just we're performing arts because we're not just performing arts or we're not fine arts galleries. We're creative people that are coming up with solutions on a daily basis every day. And we just don't give ourselves enough credit for that.

Andy Lott stated he thought the biggest question is how do we get people that maybe aren't artists or that aren't a part of our bubble to tell our story as well. And how do we then, as artists, prompt them to spread it through word of mouth, but in a bigger way, to tell the story in a grander way?

Yale Yeandel stated we have to rethink our model of where we gather and want to see fine art or see a production or go to a concert.

Mark Salinas stated that most people would reply to funding. But in order to achieve funding, whether it's sponsorships, grants, or in kind, individuals or organizations, they need that reoccurring program to be successful to audiences, which requires new and exciting programming, plus new engaged audiences.

Ryrie Valdez stated she thought there has been a lot of connectivity. She stated that the Nevada Arts Council could also come up with something like this and showcase individual artists or arts organizations.

Chair Rappa stated she thought all of the ideas are fantastic. She thinks we need to continue to support our communities knowing that they have a source to come to, and how we can bring all those partnerships together in one place.

Tony Manfredi stated all of what you've said really strikes a chord, communications, connectivity, providing more resources, being the place to come to in situations like this, and the place to come to when times are great to find out everything that's going on and who are the people and players, and that the agency is working towards this through the new strategic plan. He stated that the goal is to create a strategic plan that the agency believes in, embraces, is easy to understand, and does provide flexibility to react and respond to change.

Chair Rappa stated in reference to education, there is the need to create a hybrid response to things where you can bounce back and forth from whether it's being online to being in-person.

Tony Manfredi stated arts education has tremendous opportunity and possibilities to really make a difference in the states education success.

The board members discussed the STEM/STEAM groups.

- b. Review Current National Endowment for the Arts Partnership Grant
- c. Next Steps

Tony Manfredi stated that given timing they would shelve B. Looking at next steps, he and Gail will discuss bringing this item back to the board.

Amanda Horn stated she knew they have to have quarterly meetings at these certain occurrences, but are we allowed to vote to have an emergency meeting. Tony Manfredi stated they could have as many meetings as wanted.

Chair Rappa asked board members, when answering the proposed questions, to comment whether they prefer there be committees versus board wide meetings and that it may makes sense to have an education committee breaking things into smaller pieces.

H. Discussion Only – Executive Director Update _____

- Budget Planning FY21
- Budget Planning FY22-23

Tony Manfredi reviewed the budget planning and stated he is unsure of what FY21 looks like at this time. He did acknowledge that there are going to be reductions and that they working through all those reductions and will keep the board apprised.

I. Discussion Only – Board Member Updates _____

Amanda Horn talked about how the Nevada Museum of Art has been working with their education team to bring a gallery program. This week, they are launching the Lots of Landscapes which is a way to encourage families or individuals to create together during this time and to share their work. They've been working with their curatorial staff to do collection spotlights. They are looking for ways to connect with people in a meaningful ways, and also look at our community at large and respond to those needs.

Mark Salinas talked about how the clerk's recorder's office Carson City and he partnered to redesign the typical / *Voted* stickers.

Edward Estipona stated his company created a news channel called justthepositive.com, to put out good news.

Jerry Schefcik stated the university put together an exhibition called Six Feet of Art rather than six feet apart, making that available for people to experience online.

J. Discussion Only - Future Agenda Items _____

Amanda Horn asked if they have any sense of when that special meeting to approve the funding will be will happen, two weeks, one week, three weeks. Tony Manfredi stated they have to properly post everything so it will be two to three-week timeframe of when they will be able to have that discussion.

K. Public Comment _____

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Fran Morrow encourage board members to inform their friends and connections to apply to the artists fellowships and if they have any questions, she and Stephen are able to help.

There was no other public comment.

L. For Possible Action – Adjournment _____

Mark Salinas made a motion to adjourn. Edward Estipona seconded the motion. There was a unanimous vote to adjourn.